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A

May 22, 1998

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Continuation-In-Part Patent Application of
Venkataraman BRINGI, Prakash KADKADE,
Christopher PRINCE, and Braden ROACH
"ENHANCED PRODUCTION OF TAXOL AND TAXANES
BY CELL CULTURES OF *TAXUS* SPECIES"
Our Reference: 021653.0138

Dear Sir:

Applicant is enclosing a Continuation-In-Part Patent Application for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), including ninety (90) pages of specification; six (6) pages of claims, (including claims 1-62); an abstract; eleven (11) sheets of drawings (**Fig(s) 1-6D**), and an unexecuted Joint Declaration.

This application is a continuation-in-part application of International Application PCT/US97/08907, designating the U.S., filed May 27, 1997, and a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/653,036, filed May 24, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/370,494, filed January 9, 1995, which is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 07/874,344, now U.S. Patent No. 5,407,816, filed April 24, 1992, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 07/839,144, filed February 20, 1992.

This application is being filed without the filing fee and with an unexecuted Joint Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Nevertheless, Applicant is believed to be entitled to a filing date based upon the PTO's receipt of the attached specification, claims, and drawings. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the PTO grant a filing date of May 22, 1998, to this application. The filing fee and executed Joint Declaration will be timely filed.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

May 22, 1998

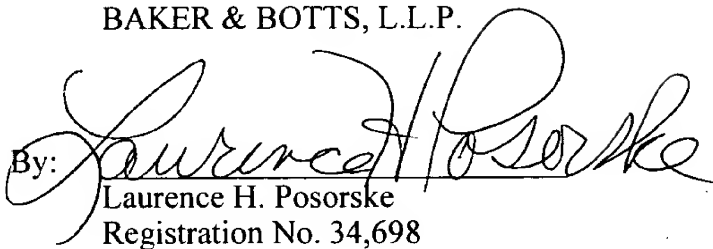
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Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 22, 1998

LHP/jc

Enclosures